

Statewide Interoperability Governing Board

November 18, 2014

Mitchell Building, Room 53

ATTENDEES: Sheriff Leo Dutton, MSPOA, Chair; Bonnie Lorang, MITS; Jason Smith, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs; Captain Patrick Lonergan, MFCA; Geoff Feiss, MTA; Chief Mike Doto, MSVFA; Jon Swartz, MDOT; Ron Baldwin, State CIO, MDOA/SITSD; Tim Burton, Chief of Staff, Governor's Office

BOARD MEMBERS/CONFERENCE CALL: Chief Roger Nasset, MACOP; Kevin Myhre, MLCT, Commissioner Joe Briggs, MACO; Colonel Tom Butler, MDOJ/MHP; Colonel Jeff Fisher, MDMA

GUESTS: Warren Dupuis, FirstNet SPOC; Quinn Ness, SWIC; Rhonda Sullivan, MDOA/SITSD; Jim DeTienne, MDPHHS; Jim Smith, MSPOA; Wing Spooner, MDOA/SITSD; Dan Sullivan, MDOA/SITSD; Mike Feldman, MDOJ/MHP; Art Collins, MDOJ/MHP; Heather Klicman, Motorola Solutions; Keith Cook, Motorola Solutions; Dan Hawkins, U. S. DHS/OEC, Chief Bob Drake, MSVFA Alternate

GUESTS/CONFERENCE CALL: Dorothy Gremaux, MLCT Alternate; Shantil Siaperas, MACO Alternate; Charlie Gilmore, Lewis & Clark County

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by the chairman, Sheriff Leo Dutton. Introductions were made; and Leo announced the appointment of Kevin Box as the new MEMSA SIGB representative. Mr. Box was absent.

Approval of Minutes: Geoff Feiss, MTA moved to accept the October 14, 2014 meeting minutes, Chief Mike Doto, MSVFA seconded and the motion passed.

Status Report Nationwide Public Safety Meeting: Dan Sullivan, MDOA/SITSD reported that the FirstNet Initial Consultation meeting held in Helena on October 29, 2014 was a great success. The SIGB and represented associations did an excellent job informing FirstNet of Montana's unique challenges. FirstNet will continue to gather data and schedule additional meetings to provide opportunities for further input in FirstNet's network deployment plan in Montana.

FirstNet Consultation and State Plan Next Steps:

- Issue RFP(s);
- RFP(s) Evaluation/Data Collection;
- Draft State Plan Review (opportunity to provide more input);
- Final State Plan review; and
- Network Deployment;

Warren Dupuis reported that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) spectrum auctions that are required to generate the appropriated funding for the deployment of FirstNet's nationwide public safety broadband network, projected to begin in 2016. FirstNet believes that the timeline for the spectrum auctions will not slow down the consultation and state plans processes.

In order to allow FirstNet to draft a well-rounded plan and gather good data/information pertaining to Montana, Bonnie Lorang suggested getting preliminary responses from FirstNet before getting too far down the planning road.

SIGB/SLIGP Initiatives & O&M Working Group/Statewide LMR System O&M Plan: Quinn Ness, SWIC provided copies of the draft Statewide Public Safety Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System Operations and Maintenance Plan (O&M Plan) for review and provided an overview of the O&M requirements identified by the O&M Working Group. Discussion ensued regarding the recommendations included in the plan:

The Plan includes the following recommendations:

- 1a) Local governments that own, operate and control system assets should work together to develop and execute inter-local agreements that clearly identify the administrative, operations and maintenance roles and responsibilities of each local government entity. The Montana Association of Counties (MACO) could be a valuable resource in this process in providing guidance and legal advice.
- 1b) Local governments that own system assets should work together to develop and execute an inter-local agreement to establish an “authority” that would be responsible for the administration, operations and maintenance of the system. MACO could be a valuable resource in this process in providing guidance and legal advice.
- 2) The local governments that own system assets could migrate to a “single system” strategy. This would probably require engaging a single state agency (ex: Montana Highway Patrol) in the transfer of the ownership of the system’s assets, specifically the control, radio and transport subsystems, from local governments to the state agency. The state agency would become the single, centralized entity that would be responsible for system administration, operations and maintenance and local governments and their agencies would be subscribers/users of the system. There are several “best practice” examples across the nation that could be used as a benchmark for this strategy, including the states of North Dakota, Wyoming, Utah and Nebraska.

Captain Patrick Lonergan, MFCA stated that it’s hard for the MFCA to endorse the recommendations, as there are still areas in the state that are not covered by the statewide LMR system trunked radios and that there is limited use of the system by fire departments.

Colonel Tom Butler, MDOJ/MHP commented about the need to move forward and ensure for the maintenance of what has been built-out to date, and worry about future build-out, coverage and usage over the next two years.

Tim Burton, Governor’s Office, stated that the plan was a good product and the need to institutionalize the system as it is right now. He suggested forming a system user’s working group. He also stated that the Governor’s Budget, House Bill 10, includes \$2 million for communication site equipment maintenance and replacement.

Colonel Butler commented that the recommendations should include a system opt-in or opt-out requirement.

Commissioner Joe Briggs, MACO stated that he will work with Harold Blattie, Executive Director, MACO, on the next legislative steps. Sheriff Leo Dutton, Bonnie Lorang, Colonel Tom Butler and Chief Bob Drake volunteered to collaborate and assist in the legislative efforts.

Captain Lonergan stated that the MFCA will not be participating in any of the LMR system legislative activities, but will continue to hold a neutral position.

MOTION: Kevin Myhre, MLCT moved to adopt the O&M Plan as drafted; Chief Roger Nasset, MACOP and Colonel Tom Butler, MDOJ/MHP seconded. The motion passed with four abstaining: Tim Burton, Jason Smith, Patrick Lonergan and Ron Baldwin.

Training & Exercise Working Group Report: Colonel Jeff Fisher, MDMA provided the following report:

- Colonel Fisher and Dan Sullivan, MDOA/SITSD met and discussed the training offered through the U.S. DHS/OEC Training catalog. T&E working group members were instructed to provide information to their organizations and determine what courses they prefer.
- Up to five trainings can be requested.
- If the SIGB is interested, they can also schedule a SCIP Update and Review Session.

Mutual Aid Frequency Manual: Wing Spooner, MDOA/SITSD provided a presentation on the draft 2015 Mutual Aid Frequency Manual:

- SCIP Goal #5 includes the updating of the LMR mutual aid frequencies terms and conditions for usage. Initiatives include the updating of the statewide mutual aid frequencies manual and use permit system.
- Outreach & Education: Wing will be sending SIGB members online information regarding the new manual and permitting system and requested that SIGB members provide this information to their agency and association members.

MOTION: Jon Swartz, MDOT, moved to recommend to the Montana Department of Administration to adopt the 2015 Mutual Aid Frequency Manual, and Tim Burton, Governor's Office, seconded. The motion passed.

Public Comment:

Quinn Ness, SWIC inquired about the SIGB meeting schedule during the 2015 legislative session. Sheriff Leo Dutton stated that the SIGB will convene on December 9th and will discuss postponing future SIGB meetings until the end of 2015 legislative session.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:24 pm.